



About 50 industry and university experts convened at INL for the second annual Advanced Test Reactor National Scientific User Facility Workshop in July.

INL seeks input on Advanced Test Reactor

by Megan Crepeau, *Nuclear Science & Technology Communications*

This July's Advanced Test Reactor National Scientific User Facility (ATR NSUF) Workshop brought together Idaho National Laboratory engineers with industry experts and university professors, helping to establish a mutually beneficial relationship between nuclear professionals from all across the country.

ATR NSUF Scientific Director Todd Allen said the goal for the workshop was to hear from potential ATR NSUF users about how to better meet their needs.

"We need to learn from our customers what we need to do," he said. "We're trying to become more customer-oriented."

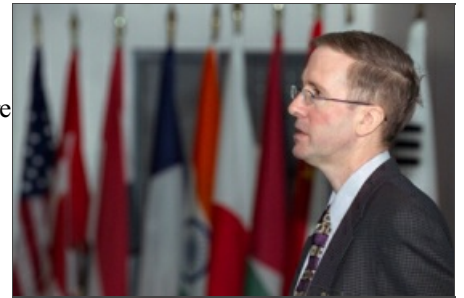
Workshop participants were provided an opportunity to tell INL what they expected out of the facilities offered by the ATR NSUF, and which improvements would benefit them most. In exchange, INL experts taught them about the capabilities of the user facility and gave them details on how to submit proposals for research.

"There's a much bigger element of us trying to get feedback on what kind of capabilities they need," *participants at the annual workshop.* Allen said.

Participants visited the INL Site to tour the ATR and Materials and Fuels Complex, and listened to presentations on the future of nuclear energy.

Allen said he hopes the introduction to INL will encourage them to submit research proposals and elevate the lab's national profile, as well as guide INL in making decisions conducive to more university proposals.

[Feature Archive](#)



NSUF director Todd Allen addresses participants at the annual workshop.